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Rep. Robb Kahl's Statement after Civil Service Vote

Votes against Gutting of State's Civil Service

(MADISON) State Representative Robb Kahl (D-Monona) made the following comments after he voted against the Republican bill that dismantled the state's civil service system.

"For over 100 years, the civil service system has served the people of Wisconsin well," Rep. Kahl began. "As with any service, there is a legitimate need to update it for modern times. However, instead of having a deliberative process to evaluate and implement changes, the Republican controlled Legislature is rushing through a bill that will dramatically alter the service and open up Wisconsin to corruption and cronyism.

"Applicants for employment with state government should be hired based on <u>what</u> they know, not <u>who</u> they know. We shouldn't pass a bill that makes the hiring practices of the controversy riddled WEDC the statewide process for hiring state employees.

"I'm afraid that with the passage of this bill Wisconsin will truly be losing it's tradition of open government. Even though things may look bad, my Democratic colleagues and I will continue to fight for what the people of Wisconsin want. They don't want more political power grabs, they want strong public schools, a well-funded transportation system, and help for middle class families."

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